

News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the times."

The Virginia Court of Appeals refused on Tuesday to grant a rehearing of the Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Potomac Railroad Company, against the Central Company, on an appeal from the judgment of the Richmond Circuit Court, so that the decision on Monday in favor of the Richmond and Fredericksburg Company stands as the judgment of the Court.

The long pending suit of John C. Hobson against the Washington and New Orleans Telegraph Company, which was caused by a mistake of the operator in ordering more cotton at Mobile than Mr. Hobson desired, has been finally decided by the Virginia Court of Appeals. The amount of damages awarded to Mr. Hobson under the decision of the court, is \$6,864.13, with interest from the 1st of April 1854.

All the Eastern papers notice the disastrous effects of the hurricane of Friday last. It appears to have been most violent in New York. In that city and in Brooklyn some houses were unroofed and some wholly destroyed. The shipping also suffered considerably. No village or city on the Hudson river escaped without serious injury.

By the latest arrival from California, we have the full particulars of the loss of the steamer Northern. It appears there were 108 persons on board. Of these 38 were drowned, 17 of whom were passengers and 21 crew, while 38 of the passengers and 22 of the crew were saved.

The Richmond Enquirer suggests and recommends the immediate purchase, for the "Howitzers" of that city, of a battery of Howitzers which it is informed is in the Naval Arsenal in Washington, and which the Secretary of the Navy says he will sell to the State as soon as a proper demand is made from the Executive.

Dr. Davidson, the wretched assassin and maniac, who made the diabolical attempt on Monday to murder half a dozen people in Haverhill, Ky., by means of an "infernal machine," has since the trial of the wounds he received on that occasion. Several others of the wounded are in a critical condition.

J. H. Bingham, the St. Louis portrait painter who, a short time since, ran away, taking with him the wife of a gentleman of that city, was arrested on the charge in Cincinnati, on Friday. At the time of the arrest he was found playing cards with the lady at a hotel.

Count Thun assumed the duties of the office of Foreign Affairs, in the French Cabinet, on the 24th. He immediately opened a circular to the various Ambassadors, pledging his best efforts to maintain and consolidate the existing friendly relations.

A citizen of Brunswick county, Va., named Nathaniel M. Spears, was shot and instantly killed by a neighbor, Edmund W. Cole, on Friday, 3d inst. The quarrel was of sudden occurrence. Cole surrendered, and was committed.

The passengers who left New York on the 20th December, 1859, in the Atlantic, connecting at Panama with the Golden Gate, made the through trip in twenty days, six hours, being the shortest time ever made from New York to San Francisco.

The Japanese embassy mission is settled, and they were to leave Jeddo as soon after the 25th of January as possible, in the Powhatan, to proceed to Panama overland to Washington City. The embassy consists of twenty persons and fifty-one retainers.

The Eastern (Md.) Gazette, of Saturday last, announces the death of Samuel Stevens, Ex-Governor of Maryland. He was a native of Talbot county, where he died on the 7th inst. in the 82d year of his age.

The Franchise Privilege of the members of Congress exceeds in cost, considerably more than the members' yearly salary. It is no wonder they fight so hard against abolishing this abuse.

Rev. William Craig Brownlee, D.D., senior pastor of the Collegiate Reformed Dutch Church, died in New York at the age of 77 years.

Manufacturing companies have been chartered for Scottsville, Howardsville and Charlottesville, in Albemarle county.

A number of Hoe's presses were sent to Europe by the City of Manchester from New York last week.

A Pickpocket--Two Ladies Relieved of their Purse-Monies and Contents.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

ORANGE STATION, Feb. 11.--Whilst the Lynchburg train bound for Alexandria, was waiting at this station for the Alexandria train to-day, two ladies, Mrs. and Miss Taylor, had their pockets picked by some adroit pickpocket--one of a purse containing about \$50 in bank bills and the other of a purse containing a check for \$51 and a small amount of specie. They did not discover their loss until after the train had left the station, when a gentleman present remembered seeing a well dressed man, apparently 25 or 30 years of age, pass hurriedly through the train in front of the Ticket office and then into the cars again, at which time it is supposed he made the lucky "grab." In the afternoon a portion of the check and one of the purse monies was picked up just below the station on the Railroad, and the thief threw them off to prevent detection. Railroad conductors and station agents ought to keep a sharp look out for such scamps, and when they are caught at their tricks, they should be handed over immediately to be dealt with according to law.

LYNCH.

FRIGHTFUL SCENE.--Green street, above Hancock, was the scene of a horrible occurrence last evening, about 6 1/2 o'clock. The dress of Frances Lavielle, a young woman, an inmate of Mrs. Johnnie Laver's house, accidentally caught fire from the grate, and almost in an instant was in flames. Her companions were appalled by terror, and the frightened woman fled into the street. The wind fanned the flames, and while the poor terror-stricken creature rushed up and down the pavement, the fiery element was doing its fatal work. Her clothing was entirely consumed on her person, and the woman finally went back into the house and fell on the floor. Her flesh was burnt to a crisp--so horribly that she died in fifteen minutes. She inhaled a quantity of the flames, which was the immediate cause of her death. The street was crowded in a short time, and many saw the poor unfortunate die, as it were, on her feet.--Louisville Courier.

ARREST.--A few days since, Mr. M. T. Fristoe, Deputy Sheriff of this county, received a letter from Shelby Co., Ohio, stating that a young man named Elias Taylor, charged with forging several notes in that county, also of taking a horse and selling him, had absconded, and would probably arrive here in a short time. He also enclosed his miniature. On Monday last a person answering the description and picture, arrived, and was immediately arrested and committed to jail, to await the requisition of the Gov. of Ohio.

Senator Hunter's late speech, a well prepared synopsis of which we have furnished to our readers, is every where admitted to be a very able production, reflecting credit upon his abilities as a statesman.

It is said that the friends of some of the prominent Members of Congress, procure the publication of "speeches" in Congress, in the New York Herald, by paying for them the usual advertising rates.

The appropriations already made by the Legislature of Virginia, this year, it is said, exceed five millions of dollars.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate, on Saturday, a communication was received from the House, that they had passed Senate bill to increase the capital stock of the Manassas Gap Railroad Company, and authorizing a subscription thereto by the Board of Public Works; and that they had agreed to the Senate amendment to the House amendments to Senate bill, to authorize the payment of interest on the guaranteed bonds of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company.

Bills were reported by Mr. Beale, from the Committee on Banks, to incorporate the Bank of Lynchburg.

By Mr. Thomas, of F., (by leave,) the following bills, viz: Ironing the Potomac Manufacturing Company, for the manufacture of iron and machinery; incorporating the George Washington Manufacturing Company, for the manufacture of cotton fabrics; incorporating the Mount Vernon Manufacturing Company, for the manufacture of paper; incorporating the Fairfax Manufacturing Company, for the manufacture of woollen fabrics.

Mr. Day called up House bill increasing the salary of the Auditor of Public Accounts, and accepted the amendment of Mr. Thomas, of F., providing that the fees accruing from the office shall go into the State Treasury. The roll was called with the following result:--Ayes 25, noes 17. A reconsideration of the vote rejecting the bill, was carried, 25 to 13, and the bill laid on the table, and made the order of the day for Tuesday at 12 M.

The bill authorizing the Winchester and Potomac Railroad Company to extend their road from the town of Winchester, to connect with the Manassas Gap Railroad, at or near the town of Strasburg, was made the order of the day for Tuesday next, at 12 o'clock, M.

On motion of Mr. Stuart, the Committee on Banks was instructed to enquire into the expediency of providing by law for the more effectual suppression of the circulation of counterfeit and altered notes.

Mr. Newman called up the following joint resolution, offered by him on Friday:

Resolved, by the General Assembly, that the Board of Public Works be, and they are hereby instructed to expend one half of the amount appropriated to the Covington and Ohio Railroad, in construction from the Western terminus East, in conformity with the original charter of said road.

The vote was taken, and the resolution was rejected--ayes 9, noes 28.

A bill authorizing the county court of Fairfax to direct the amount of a recognizance (\$2,000) entered into by Thos. Crux to be paid to Joseph E. Monroe and James W. Jackson, when the same is collected. Explained by Mr. Thomas, of F., and rejected, 17 to 13.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the vote was reconsidered and the bill laid on the table.

Bills were passed, to provide for the enslavement of Martha Brown, by the county court of Giles; for the payment of a sum of money (\$33.35) to John P. and Thomas E. Ballard, for the entertainment of Col. Menniger, the Guest of the State, at the Ball House; to incorporate the Jefferson Insurance Company of Albemarle; to amend and reenact the 1st and 3d sections of an act for running and marking the boundary line between North Carolina and Virginia, passed April 2, 1858. (Passed, ayes 31, noes 9.)

Providing for the recordation of certain bonds not now required to be recorded, providing for publishing a second edition of the Code of Virginia. (On motion of August, the blank was filled with "10,000 copies," to amend the 1st section of the act passed March 27, 1858, authorizing the issue of a coupon bond of G. Buckingham, &c., in place of one lost. (Explained by Mr. Thomas, of F.)

To amend the 8th section of chapter 209 of the Code of Virginia, concerning the execution of sentence of death. (The bill provides that sentence of death, except for insurrection or rebellion, shall not be executed sooner than thirty days after the sentence is pronounced, unless the Court orders otherwise--but in all cases, reasonable time shall be allowed to apply for a writ of error.)

Concerning public roads and bridges in the county of Shenandoah.

To increase the capital stock of the Alexandria, Mount Vernon and Acotneck turnpike company.

House bill, providing for the voluntary enslavement of Mary and her children, in the county of Culpeper--(amended, on motion of Mr. Thomas, of F.)

In the House of Delegates, the special order of the day, the consideration of "a bill making regulations concerning special licenses," was taken up.

Mr. Barbour resumed his argument in favor of the bill.

At a late hour Mr. Barbour was replied to by Mr. Sadding in some remarks, saying that he should resume them hereafter, when, on motion the House adjourned.

[Tuesday next is set apart for the further discussion of this question.]

From the Rio Grande.

Late news from the Rio Grande reports that the American steamer Ranchero was fired into thirty miles above Brownsville by Mexicans bearing the Mexican flag. Several shots passed through the steamer. Subsequently the Mexicans fired upon Col. Ford's forces from the Mexican side of the river, and dangerously wounded one of his men. Ford returned the fire and then crossed over the river in pursuit. Capt. Stoneman's command of U. S. cavalry had reinforced Major Hientzelmaier's forces, which now amount to two hundred men. There is not the least doubt but that the people of Matamoros sympathize with Cortina. A border war is considered inevitable.

AN AMERICAN ROUTE TO CHINA AND JAPAN.--The Senate, on Wednesday last, adopted a resolution instructing the committee on post-offices to inquire into the expediency of establishing a line of steamers between San Francisco and China, via the Sandwich Islands. The Senator from California, Mr. Haun, who offered the resolution, has initiated a measure fraught with the greatest interest to America commerce. The quickest and shortest route to China from the great Atlantic seaboard is undoubtedly that across the North American Continent, and by sea to the ports of the East now open and to be opened in future to commerce. Even by the Isthmus route to California, the channel of communication proposed by Mr. Haun would be of incalculable advantage to our trade, while, should the Pacific Railroad be completed, the benefit would be inestimable.--N. Y. Times.

"I HAVE THE READING OF IT."--We know of so many people who read papers, and do not pay for them, that we would, as a matter of reference, introduce a little piece which is taken from our exchanges. To our certain knowledge it is applicable to many of us.--It not unrequently occurs, when persons are asked if they will subscribe for a newspaper, or if they already take it, that they reply, "No; but neighbor B. takes it and I have the reading of it every week." Such often add, that they like the paper, and sometimes they say they consider it "the best paper they know of." They are benefited by the tools, perplexities and expenditures of those who receive nothing from them in return.--Petersburg Intelligencer.

A boy, sixteen years old, has been tried, and found guilty, in West Chester, Pa., of murdering a girl, aged about nine years!

"Never Differed."

"'Tis very strange how things have changed, Since this old hat was new."

In an article on the Speaker's election, the Washington Constitution of the 31st January, says:

"To the old-line Whigs in the galleries it was a sight never to be forgotten, to behold the conservative men of different sections, and of variant political creeds, agreeing to rally on one of their own honored number--Divided as they have been in former times on obsolete issues, they were differed as to the great principle of political safety for the Union, or measures for the domestic peace and tranquility of the South; principles and measures which are now paramount to all other questions."

Indeed! Was there no difference between them in regard to "measures for the domestic peace and tranquility of the South," in 1840, when Gen. Harrison was charged with being an Abolitionist, and his supporters with giving aid and comfort to the deadliest enemies of the Union? Was there no difference between them in 1844, when Henry Clay was denounced upon every highway, and in every lane, and alley of the South as a traitor to his section? Was there no difference between them in 1848, when it was alleged that Gen. Taylor's unchastened ambition had induced him to forget his Southern birth, and all the ties of feeling and of interest which bound him to his soil? Was there no difference between them in 1852, when Winfield Scott was painted as a tool of William H. Seward, and the stern old soldier, whose whole life had passed in habits of command, was represented as giving himself up, body and soul, to the direction of a creeping thing whom one angry glance of the hero's eye would have shrivelled into nothingness? Was there no difference between them at any of these periods; and are all these charges now conceded to be despicable calumnies, hatched for a party purpose, and clinging to us as long as a party and was to be gained by so doing?--*Memphis Enquirer.*

VICISSITUDE OF FORTUNE.--The Albany Standard relates the following instance of vicissitude of fortune:--A few years ago one of the most active and successful business men in the city of Hudson, was Leonard Wells. Everything he touched turned into money. He once made \$10,000 in an hour by a purchase and sale of a piece of real estate. Fifteen years ago Mr. W. was worth \$70,000. Shortly after luck turned against him. He lost \$31,000 by buying stock in the Hudson and Berkshire Railroad. This was followed by other losses caused by endorsements.

In less than 19 months Mr. W. passed from affluence to extreme poverty--from being worth \$70,000 to being not worth one cent. Mr. W. is now a resident of this city, and earns a living for himself and family by peddling candies, apples and dainties. We are happy to say that he bears the decrees of fate with becoming philosophy. He is as cheerful to-day as he was when he was known as "man of fortune." He endures an honest living, and is determined to enjoy it.

FUNERAL OF A NATIVE PRINCE.--The funeral of J. W. Pitt Kinan, one of the last of the pure descendants of the ancient kings of Hawaii, the dynasty conquered by Kamehameha the Great, took place at Honolulu on the 27th of December. Keona, the great-grandson of Kinan, is reputed to have possessed the highest chief blood, according to Hawaiian genealogy. The funeral drew out a large concourse of spectators. The stock of *Atlas* is dwindling down to a mere handful. --*San Francisco Chronicle.*

OBITUARY.

Departed this life on Monday evening, at half past four o'clock, on the second of January, at Walnut Hill, the residence of her nephew, G. W. Summers, Miss ELIZABETH BOYDE, aged seventy-eight. In the early part of the spring of '53 the subject of this notice was afflicted with a bad cold, from which she never arose, but that trying of all diseases, Paralysis, and for twenty-two long months she was one of earth's greatest sufferers. Some months before her dissolution, she nearly made a full recovery of herself, and with all the patience and resignation of a Christian, waited the coming of her Lord. Our friend, while with us, possessed many noble virtues of heart and mind--and was well adapted, and found useful in all the relations of life. Her mind was clear and bright, and from her general walk and conversation, those who knew her best, were constrained to say that she was indeed a child of God. But she has passed away, and the place that once knew her shall know her no more. We were her friends, and mourn, not as those without hope; for we believe that she now shines a radiant gem within the Savior's glittering diadem, and sweetly sings, "I am at home." And soon we trust to join her in her sweet song of praise.

The writer of this notice enjoyed the inestimable privilege of being with our departed friend in her last moments; and oh! how calmly did she fall asleep in Jesus! It was no clinging to vain earth, no sighing for its vain evanescent pleasures, but a joy and peace for the had made the ether, and God her refuge, and underneath was the everlasting arms. Just before the bright sun was about sinking behind the western horizon, the sweet-singing angel of Death came to release her of anguish and pain, and gently bore the pure and happy spirit.

To that pure home of blessed joys, Where earth's parted friends shall meet, With smiles of love that never fade, And blessings infinite.

There, then, adieu are sounds unknown, Death-frowns not on that scene, All we miss are of our earthly scene, Unclouded and serene.

PAQUIER CO., Va.

Died, at the "Old Mansion," Caroline county, Virginia, on the 9th instant, after a well-spent life, and in the 76th year of his age, WILLIAM G. MAURY, beloved and lamented by all who knew him.

Died, in Memphis on Tuesday last, after a very short illness, DR. ALEXANDER DUKE, a practicing physician of that city, and formerly a citizen of Charlottesville.

VISITING AND WEDDING CARDS.

OF A new and fashionable style, written with Ink, and engraved by W. E. CHANDLER, at Willard's Hotel, Washington, D. C. Will be sent by mail, prepaid, at the following rates: A pack of 100 visiting cards, \$1.50.

Thirty for..... 1.00
One dozen..... 0.50
Wedding Cards, per pack of 50..... 4.00
Any number at the same rate.
All cards are made of our best postage stamp paper. Different names and styles of writing in a pack, if desired.

Send postage stamps for the fractional parts of a dollar. Promptly mailed by express.

W. E. CHANDLER, Card Writer and Engraver, Willard's Hotel, Washington, D. C. Washington, Feb. 14--e2w

A FRESH SUPPLY OF NEW BOOKS, just received and for sale at GEO. E. FRENCH'S Book and Periodical Depot, No. 104, King Street, Will Sports in the South, or the Camp-Fire of the Everglades, by Charles E. Whitehead, finely illustrated \$1.25.

The Life Struggle, by Miss Parlane, adopted from "Lionel XIV. and the Court of France," Adopted Price, 1 vol., 12mo, \$1.25.

Marriage as it is, and as it should be, by Rev. John Bayley, of the Virginia Conference, author of "Confessions of a converted Infidel," "Pleasant Odours," &c., 60 cents.

Pleasant Hours, a present to my Christian Friend, by Rev. John Bayley, price 50 cents.

Leetle's Monthly part of Weekly for March, 25 cents.

Vanity Fair is the richest Comic of the day, published weekly.

New York Ledger, Mercury, Weekly, Waverley Magazine, Flag, Glasgow's Historical Library, Gunpowder, London New York Illustrated, Pilot, Scotchman, American Journal, London Illustrated News, London Punch, and everything in my line.

Constantly receiving new Books, Magazines, &c., &c. (Feb 14) G. E. FRENCH.

A SPLENDID assortment of all kinds of COMBS and BRUSHES, also Hair Nets, of various patterns, just received, at

Wool purchased by RIDGELY, HAMPTON & CO.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Saint Valentine visits Alexandria.

I am the Saint renowned of old, Of whom rare legends have been told, Through every age, in every clime, All sought to know Saint Valentine; Who dwelt enshrined 'mid spirits three, Religion--Love and Poetry. Then was it in far, ancient lands, Sweet maidens wreathed in graceful hands, And decked in robes of snowy white, Sang gaily through the living night, To greet the natal morn that rose For summer when my sainted name, Anon, I crossed the stormy main For this "new world," then young to fame; And the first "laurels" that I won, Were from your own great Washington: When a brave youth, not free from folly, I think his "first love" name was "Molly," His "Valentine" was not expected--Coldly received, and he--regretted, I mention this with much regret.

Most noble Mr. Everett! I can repeat the narration Was left out of your great oration, Else all young men might well despair Of ever pleasing ladies fair. And in your eulogy discover--Less of "philly" than the "lover," Ah! those were days before John Brown, With knives and foils, had won renown; Ere noisy factions, worse than Babel, Forgot the fate of Cain and Abel; When Congress sat in power and state, Without one angry word or wrangle, As when of old Bethlehem's star, The wise men meekly came from far, So they the infant nation sought, With offerings to its cradle brought, While a child of peace and love, thence The perfume of their frank incense.

But in this age of heresy, 'Ere commercialists are made of me, Shop windows teem with verses vile, To nature seek to wear my smile, And faithful lovers, true to soul, With words as coarse, are charged to me, I, with my brow so wreathed of yore, With attic wit, with classic lore--I, to descend from my high state, To woo the lowly, and to wait, I, who have dwelt 'mid bees and graces, To paint such poetic fables! By every high and holy star I write on them anathema! Such a triumph I heartily deem, And the poet's laurel, I maintain; Or else he's grown so glum and "dour," That he's become a "cross old fogey." Cease, foolish flatterer, if I'm old, I know you well, and you are kind, Miss Nineteen! You said I'd been, You daint in silk and crimson; You trifle through each precious minute; Your bonnet--ah! that's nothing to me! Why wear those looks so vain, so naughty? Let me be undressed, but more to please, The richest robe, expanding wide, A common nature cannot hide, Such follies never were displayed Beneath your granddame's brocade, Had you a granddame, my dear? But that is neither here nor there, You are a type of this fast age--As such, a saint with me I wage, And I, the saint revered of old, In light regard you guests hold--Let me be undressed, but more to please, The richest robe, expanding wide, A common nature cannot hide, Such follies never were displayed Beneath your granddame's brocade, Had you a granddame, my dear? But that is neither here nor there, You are a type of this fast age--As such, a saint with me I wage, And I, the saint revered of old, In light regard you guests hold--Let me be undressed, but more to please, The richest robe, expanding wide, A common nature cannot hide, Such follies never were displayed Beneath your granddame's brocade, Had you a granddame, my dear? 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